



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I

JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001

May 31, 1995

Ciba-Geigy Corporation
444 Saw Mill River Road
Ardsley, NY 10502

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to clarify a recent change in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) policy regarding certain sites listed on the Superfund program inventory of known and suspected hazardous waste disposal sites (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System or CERCLIS database). Sites which have been evaluated by the EPA Superfund Site Assessment program and subsequently "Deferred" to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle C program are now being removed from the CERCLIS database.

Ciba-Geigy Corp. located at 180 Mill Street in Cranston, Rhode Island, 02905 (EPA Identification Number: RID001194323) is one such site. It was deferred to the EPA RCRA Subtitle C program on August 1, 1983. A search of our files does not show that you, as an owner, operator or other interested party, were ever notified of that decision. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with formal notification of EPA's decision to defer this site to the jurisdiction of the EPA RCRA program, and to let you know that this site has consequently been removed from the CERCLIS database.

The deferral decision means that no further work is anticipated at this site by the federal Superfund Site Assessment program. Sites receive a "Deferred" decision when the federal Superfund Site Assessment program has completed its assessment of a site, and has determined that no further steps will be taken to list a site on the National Priorities List (NPL or "Superfund List"), because the site is being addressed under RCRA Corrective Action authorities.

Sites which are deferred to the RCRA Subtitle C program for possible remedial action have historically remained in the CERCLIS database to ensure that these investigations are not needlessly repeated. However, to avoid confusion regarding which program authorities apply, these sites are now being removed from the CERCLIS database and archived as historical records.

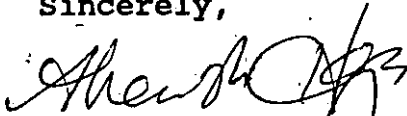


Deferred sites are also subject to state jurisdiction, and further actions may be required at this site by the state. You may wish to contact the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) to verify the status of your property with regard to state authorities. The contacts for the RIDEM are Joseph Unsworth, who may be reached at (401) 277-3872 x7103 and Timothy O'Connor, who may be reached at (401) 277-3872 x7101.

Finally, "Deferred" decisions may be changed based upon new information or other considerations which make a recommendation for NPL listing appropriate at a later time. In such an instance, you will be notified and the site will be returned to the CERCLIS database with the "Deferred" decision removed.

For further information regarding the status of this site under the RCRA Subtitle C program, please contact Frank Battaglia, who may be reached at (617) 573-9643. If you have any questions regarding the removal of this site from the CERCLIS inventory, I may be reached at (617) 573-5709.

Sincerely,

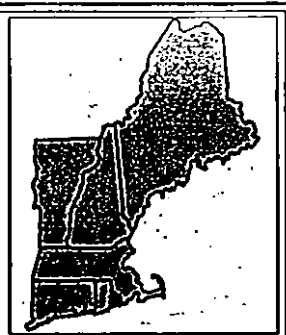


Sharon M. Hayes
Site Assessment Manager
Waste Management Division

cc: Timothy O'Connor, RIDEM
Frank Battaglia, EPA



Reinventing Environmental Regulation A State - EPA Partnership



Since the enactment of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) program in 1976, and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or "Superfund") program in 1980, many New England facilities have been subject to overlapping Federal waste management regulations. In some instances, the regulated community has been unsure of the status of their facility under each program, or which program requirements apply in a given situation. Moreover, portions of the RCRA program have been delegated to the States for implementation, and each of the New England States have developed separate State "Superfund" programs. Thus, multiple Federal and State authorities apply to most waste management facilities.

EPA New England, in partnership with the States, has been working for the past year to revamp the Superfund program and to better integrate the Federal Superfund and RCRA programs with State waste cleanup programs. As part of this new approach, EPA New England and the six New England states are reviewing the status of sites listed in the Federal Superfund program inventory of known and suspected hazardous waste disposal sites (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System or "CERCLIS" database). Of immediate concern are the approximately 250 sites in New England which have been "deferred" to either RCRA Subtitle C program authorities or the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The deferral designation means that these sites have been evaluated by the Federal Superfund Site Assessment program and found to be ineligible for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL or "Superfund List"), the list of the nation's worst hazardous waste disposal sites, because another Federal authority has primacy.

To clarify for the regulated community which Federal program requirements apply, and to address the perceived "stigma" of being listed in CERCLIS, EPA New England is now removing sites from CERCLIS which have received the "deferred" designation. Deferred sites are ineligible for further investigation under the Federal Superfund program because they are being addressed under another Federal authority (either RCRA Subtitle C or the NRC). Deferred sites are still subject to State jurisdiction, however, and may have further obligations with regard to State program authorities.

Enclosed you will find additional information regarding the current status of your property under the Federal Superfund, RCRA, and State waste management programs.

United States Environmental Protection Agency New England Office

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Vermont Agency for Natural Resources